ABSTRACT

Spacer frame tubing for being mounted between first and second panes in an insulated window assembly, the tubing being configured to flex inwardly and outwardly in response to inwardly and outwardly directed pressures exerted by the glass panes so as to minimize the tendency of the panes to pivot against the sidewalls of the tubing. The reduction in pivoting action reduces the tendency of the edges of the panes to alternately pull away from and press against the sealing strip around the perimeter of the window assembly as the panes bow in response to changes in atmospheric pressure, thereby reducing the tendency of the edges of the panes to separate from or fracture against the sealing strip. The tubing has first and second side walls for engaging the inside surfaces of the glass panes, and a transverse wall interconnecting the sidewall portions The transverse wall portion is made up of first and second web portions that are joined by a seam structure, the seam structure being formed by a series of overlapping and underlapping tab portions which engage one another in sliding interfit. The sliding interfit permits the web portions to slide towards and away from one another while still keeping the seam structure intact. The tubing may be constructed of roll-formed aluminum alloy sheet material, and a particulate desiccant material may be enclosed within the hollow interior of the tubing.